 No. 20

A Vindication of the Quakers

FROM THE

Aſperſion caſt upon them of being PAPISTS; *and likewiſe to ſhew, That they are not againſt* Fighting *when there is Juſt Cauſe for it. As is apparent by the following Abſtract of their own Writings, which are Publiſhed at this* Juncture *to undeceive the Simple, and for the better Uniting of all* Proteſtants *againſt the* Common Enemy.

6. Aug. 1690.

Edward Burrough's *WORKS.*

A Meſſage *Procl. to the Pope*, pag. 472, 473.

THou Mountain, Thus ſaith the Lord to thee, I will lay thee low, I will break thee down, my Hand ſhall not ſpare, my Eye ſhall not pity, but I ſhall tear and rend, and give unto thee and unto all Men the Fruit of your Doings; innocent Blood crys unto Me, that hath been unjuſtly ſhed: And now I am riſen, and I am begun to work in the Earth, and I will go through Nations, and tread them down under my Power; and My Power ſhall knock at thy Gates, and break down thy ſtrength, and it ſhall prevail againſt thee: Wherefore, Thou Pope, Chief Biſhop of *Rome*, this is unto thee from the Mouth of the Lord.

E. B. *a Trumpet Sounded*, pag. 102.

TO all you call'd Papiſts, to your whole Body and Head at *Rome*, &c. Thus aſſuredly ſaith the Lord, My Controverſie is againſt you, and my Vengeance, and Wrath, and Fury, ſhall for ever, world without end, be upon you, and though you pardon one another, yet, will not I pardon any one of you.

E. B. *an Alarum Sounded in the* Popes *Borders*, *Pag.* 536, 537, 538, 539, 540.

AND this lay upon me to declare in the Name of the Lord, to Governour *Lockart* (Governour of *Dunkirk*) his Officers, *&c.* That if they did enterprize any Buſineſs, as they were an Army in a Spirit in Oppoſition unto us, and in that Spirit that did reject us, and deny us, and gain-ſay us; then ſhould they never proſper in any Enterpriſe whatſoever; but if they went on in the Fear of the Lord, and in that Spirit that was amongſt us, then ſhould they overcome their Enemies, and none ſhould have Power over them, to overcome them.

His Inſtructions to the Army in and about Dunkirk.

AND that there be no more a looking back, till you have viſited *Rome*, and inquired after, and ſought out the innocent Blood that is buried therein, and avenge the Blood of the Guiltleſs, through all the Dominions of the Pope, The Blood of the Juſt Crys, through *Italy* and *Spain*, and the Time *is come*, that the Lord will ſearch it, and ſeek it out, and repay it, and it would be your Honour to be made uſe of by the Lord in any meaſure, in order to this Matter.

And this I alſo believe, that the Lord will do it, or make way hereunto, even by you the Men of our *Engliſh* Nation, if you be faithful. What are theſe few poor Iſlands that you have run through, and laid many Mountains low, they are but little in Compariſon of the great Part of Chriſtendom, in which Idolatry and great Oppreſſions do abound, which the Hand of the Lord is againſt, and which He will take Vengeance upon: But there are many Mountains in the Way; wherefore, hew down the Tops, ſtrike at the Branches, make way that the Ax may be laid to the Root of the Tree, that your *Sword*, and the Sword of the Lord, may neither leave Root nor Branch of Idolatry, Oppreſſion, and Tyranny; your Sword is to be lifted up againſt them, it is the Lords Work I know, to make Men truly Religious, but yet the Lord may work by you, to break down the Bryars and Thorns, and Rocks and Hills that have ſet themſelves againſt the Lord.

God will make their Riches, and their falſely-Conſecrated Veſſels and Treaſures, even a Spoyl and a Prey unto you, if you be faithful.

Your Work hath been (and may be) Honourable in its Day, and your Victory hath been of the Lord; ſo be low in your own Eyes, and ſeek the Glory of God, and the Freedom of the Oppreſſed, and in that you will be Bleſſed, and Proſper, till you have ſet up your Standard at the Gates of Rome, &c.

G. F. *to the Council of Officers*, &c.

O Friends, the Power of God you have abuſed, the Juſt have been trodden under Foot, who have been put out of the Army, and publick Services. Now had you been faithful in the Power of the Lord, which once ſtirred, this Nation needed not have been affraid of any Nation upon Earth, but your Dread would have ſounded over the World, but when you loſt the Power of God, with which you had bruſhed at the outſide of things, then you turn'd againſt, and put them in Priſon that ſtruck at the Root. And had you been faithful to the Power of the Lord God, which firſt carryed you on, you had gone into the Midſt of *Spain* into their Land, to require the Blood of the Inn[illegible] that there had been ſhed, and commanded them to have offered up their Inquiſitions to you, and gone over them as the Wind, and knock't at Rome Gates before now, and trampled Deceit and Tyrants under, and demanded the Pope himſelf, and have commanded him to have offered up all his *Torture-Houſes*, his *Wracks*, and *Inquiſitions*, (which you ſhould have found as black as Hell) and broke up all the Bars and Gates, where all the Juſt Blood hath been ſhed, which ſhould have been required, and this you ſhould have ſeen done in the Power, when you had been the Dread of all Nations, you had been a Dread to them, and ſhould have ſet up a Standard at Rome, and then you ſhould have ſent for the Turk

Idol, the *Mahomet*, and plucked up Idolatry, and cryed up CHRIST the only King and Lord, and then People would have said you had gone on in the Cause of GOD and His Truth: And so if you had gone to have made Inquisition for Blood, and have demanded all the Inquisitions abroad in the whole Christendom, whereby the innocent Blood had been shed, then all the People in the whole Christendom that feared the Lord, would have said with one Consent, *These are the Men that are gone out for GOD's Cause*, pag. 3.

Many Valiant Captains, Souldiers and Officers, have been put out of the Army by Sea and Land, of whom it hath been said among you, *That you had rather have had one of them, that seven Men, and could have turned one of them to seven Men*, who because of their Faithfulness to the Lord, being faithful towards Him; it may be for saying Thou to a Particular, and for wearing their Hats, have been turn'd out from amongst you, page, 5.

Oh! How are Men fallen from that which they were in at first, when Thousands of us went in the Front of you, and were with you in the greatest Heat! *pag.* 6.

Oh! How is the Sincerity choaked, suffocated and quenched by the Fatness of the Earth, whereby they have forgotten the Lord, and His Arm and Power, that once carryed them on! *pag.* 7.

And if ever, You Souldiers, and true Officers, come again into the Power of *GOD*, (which hath been lost) never set up your Standard until you come to Rome, and it be a top of Rome, then there let your Standard stand, and look at the Power of the Lord God, and never heed Gold nor Silver, for the Power of the Lord will give you enough, *pag.* 8.

From a Lover of all Souls, who stands in the Election before the World began.

George Fox *and* Edw. Burrough: *Good Council*, &c. *to* Oliver *and* Richard, *Protectors*, pag. 26, 27.

OH *Oliver*! Hadst thou been faithful, and thunder'd down Deceit, the *Hollanders* had been thy Subjects and Tributaries, and *Germany* had been given up, to have done thy Will, and the *Spaniard* had quiver'd like a dry Leaf, the King of *France* should have bowed under thee his Neck, the Pope should have wither'd as in Winter, the *Turk* in all his Fatness should have smoaked; Thou shouldst not have stood trifling about small things, but minded the Work of the Lord as he began with thee at first, sober men, and true Hearts took part with thee; Oh take heed and do not slight such, lest thou weaken thy self, and not disown such as the Lord hath owned; thy Dread is not yet all gone, nor thy Amazement; arise and come out, for hadst thou been faithful, thou shouldst have crumbled Nations to dust, for that had been thy place.

A Lover of thy Soul, and eternal Good, and for establishing Peace and Righteousness amongst the People,

G. Fox.

G. F. to *O. C.*

FRiend, Thou shouldst have invited all Christians upon Earth in all Nations that are against Popery, to come in, and join with thee against Popery, for thou hast had Authority, stand to it, lose it not, nor abuse it, nor let any other take thy Crown, and do not stand cumbring thy self about dirty Priests that flatter thee for Means; and invite all them that profess against the Pope in all Nations, to join with thee against him, and do not lose thy Dominion nor Authority, nor the Wisdom of *GOD*, but with that thou mayst order all, and that will keep thee single in Heart and Mind to the Lord, and let thy *Souldiers* go forth with a free willing Heart, that thou mayst rock Nations as a Cradle and keep them in the Fear of the Lord, and all thy *Souldiers*, and them that be under thee: This is a Charge to thee, in the Presence of the Lord God, *pag.* 36, 37.

I am a Lover of thy Soul, and eternal Good, and an Establisher of Righteousness.

Edward Burrough to *Oliver Cromwel*, p. 31, 33, 34.

O Friend, Know that there is a *GOD* that doth whatsoever He will, all Power is in His Hand, and He bringeth to pass the Council of his own Heart, and He Rules in the Kingdoms of Men, and bringeth down and setteth up, He killeth and maketh alive, He changeth Times and Seasons, and Governments, and bringeth to nought the Councils of Men, for all Power in Heaven and in Earth is in Him; and all His Doings are right, and His Ways are equal, *&c.*

Arise and stand up for the Lord, and He will give thee Strength and Victory, and will make thy Horn as Iron, and thy Hoof as Brass to push down, and tread under the High-Places of Idolatry in all the Apostatiz'd Churches, both Papists and others, *&c.*

And as concerning thy War and Armies abroad, something there is in it, known to the Lord; seek not thy own Honour in it, but be faithful, and leave the Issue of all things to the Lord; make no Covenant with Idolaters, but tread down their Idol-Gods that they have set up, and hew down their Mountains in which their Confidence stands, and plow up their Ground, that the Seed may be Sown after thee; it's Honour enough to be the Lords Plow-Man, be thou faithful in what the LORD calls thee to, and thou shalt receive thy Reward, *&c.*

By a Friend to thee in the Lord,

E. Burrough.

George Fox to *Richard Cromwel* Protector, *p.* 51.

FRiend, take heed of putting off Honest Godly Men out of the Army, in so doing thou wilt lame thy self, and weaken thy Authority, and remove thy self out of the Hearts of them that fear God.

From a Lover of thy Soul, and thy Eternal Good, and establishing of Righteousness,

G. F.

A DECLARATION *from the People called* Quakers.

WE are Friends to any appearance of Good that may come forth in Truth and Sincerity, and as Righteousness doth appear in any, we are ready to joyn with it in our Prayers and Desires; yea, and otherwise, even that which hath the Image of God upon it; whenever it shall appear we shall rejoyce thereat, and add our Help thereunto, that it may prosper; for the establishing of Righteousness in the Earth, our All is not dear unto us, *&c.* p. 14. Written by

E. Burrough,

And Subscribed by,

Ger. Roberts,
Tho. Hart,
Gilbert Latye,
John Osgood,
William Crouch,
James Strut,
John Crook,
Benjamin Furly,

And several others.

FINIS.

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